

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

MINUTES OF THE CLANDESTINE SERVICE HISTORICAL BOARD
MEETINGS, 21 and 28 JANUARY 1970

INTRODUCTION:

The Clandestine Service Historical Board met on successive Wednesdays, the 21st and 28th of January. The first meeting was interrupted by an unscheduled conference to which the Chairman was called on the 21st. For the purposes of this record, however, both meetings will be considered as continuous.

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1. Meeting convened at 1500 hours.

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2. The Chairman made note of the fact that this was to be [REDACTED]'s last meeting before his retirement in February. The Board expressed chagrin at this announcement, complimented [REDACTED] on his service to the Board, and wished him well in his future undertakings.

3. The minutes of the CS Historical Board meeting of 2 October 1969 were discussed briefly and approved.

4. The Executive Secretary reviewed the steps that had been taken to arrive at the revised CS Historical Program and his status report of 12 January 1970. He stated that, regrettably, the new historical program eliminated a certain number of operational monographs which, in his opinion, were essential parts of the Clandestine Service history. He stated that this elimination was necessary because of the deadline established by the Executive Director-Comptroller for the completion of the "catch-up" phase of the Agency

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history, coupled with the lack of manpower to complete even the condensed program. [redacted] agreed that this was a regrettable reduction in the scope of the CS program since he felt that a number of operational monographs were equally important as station histories to indoctrinate and train new CS officers. Mr. Fenimore inquired about the incorporation of previously written surveys, analyses, and quasi-historical papers in the CS Historical Program. Mr. Scott explained the various steps that had been taken and the instructions issued to identify such papers for incorporation in the records of the CS Historical Program. The Chairman summarized the discussion by stating that the Board approves the new historical program with the proviso that, as manpower is available, attention should be given to the writing of operational monographs. The Executive Secretary stated that the present program included a considerable number of such monographs which he agreed to excerpt from the overall program and provide to the members of the Board eliciting their recommendations and suggestions for titles of additional subjects or operations which should be recorded historically, time and manpower permitting. This listing was made available to the members of the Board at its meeting on 28 January.

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5. [redacted] advised that writers had been identified by the various CS components for all but 36 of the 215 historical papers yet to be written to complete the revised CS Historical Program. He noted that the problem of identifying writers for the various periods of the DDP history, writers for Africa Division station histories, and for additional personnel for the staff of the Executive Secretary constituted the principal gaps needing attention. He mentioned the fact that [redacted]

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[redacted] had probably been lost as a writer for the OSO history and the Board expressed its views that the DDP, if he is really interested in completing the CS history, should make [redacted] s assignment to the OSO task mandatory.

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6. The Executive Secretary displayed the new cover design which the Chief, Historical Staff, O/DCI had proposed for all Agency historical papers. The Board agreed that the CS could not successfully or even appropriately resist acceptance of this new cover. Recognizing, however, that 132 CS histories have already been published with the distinctive green cover, the

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Board urged that the Executive Secretary negotiate with the Chief, Historical Staff to add a distinctive green color slash or other appropriate mark to assure that custodians and readers of CS histories recognize their sensitivity and avoid intermingling those histories with other Agency papers similarly bound.

7. The Executive Secretary distributed a list of personnel currently involved full time in the CS Historical Program. The Board took cognizance of the magnitude of this undertaking which currently involves approximately 35 officers with more to be assigned if the "catch-up" phase is to be completed by the 31 December 1971 deadline.

8. The Board next addressed itself to the 12 December 1969 memorandum from the Chief, Historical Staff to the DDP and the DDP's reply thereto dated 2 January 1970. These memorandums clearly reflect the authority of the Chief, Historical Staff and the Deputy Chief, Historical Staff to have access to all CS histories as well as their directive role in connection with the writing of and selection of authors for the overall DDP history. The Chief, Historical Staff memorandum also states that the senior editor on Professor Ehrmann's staff should have access to all CS histories except those which were deemed to be "specially sensitive." The Executive Secretary advised the Board that Professor Ehrmann had orally indicated that he expected histories so classified would be the exception rather than the rule. The Board agreed that this decision should be made in the first instance by the CS component controlling any particular history. In the event of disagreement the matter should be referred to the Chairman, CS Historical Board and perhaps ultimately to the DDP for resolution.

9. The Board was apprised of the new "Style Manual" which the Chief, Historical Staff proposed to publish for the guidance of all Agency historical writers. The Executive Secretary commented that this new manual was highly technical dealing with such subjects as paragraphing, punctuation, footnotes, etc. He noted, however, that on some points it contradicted instructions contained in CSHB 5-13-1, such as--directions to use Latin abbreviations (ibid., op.cit., etc.), while the CSHB specifically recommends avoidance of such references, preferring English versions thereof. [] stated that, when published, he intended to distribute copies of the Style

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Manual to all CS historical writers for their guidance but did not feel that histories should be rejected because of nonconformance with or deviation from the Manual. The Board concurred.

25X1A 10. [redacted] advised the Board members of new steps being taken to ensure that CSG index cards to CS histories and historical papers were typed and reproduced within the CS. Heretofore, these cards were typed by clerks on the staff of the Chief, Historical Staff and printed by the Printing Services Division (PSD).

25X1A 11. The Executive Secretary referred to the problem that he and [redacted] were encountering in gaining access to and indexing of historical source documents in the FI Staff files and DDP Registry. The Executive Secretary stated that he thought there was some misunderstanding in the minds of the people responsible for these files regarding the disposition of and access to index cards prepared by CSG from these documents. The DDP's refusal to give the Chief, Historical Staff full access to "DDP records" was pertinent to this point. The Executive Secretary stated that he intended to discuss this matter with the DDP at an early time to resolve this issue so that a controlled record of the availability of these documents would be available to the writers of CS histories.

12. The last item on the agenda was Professor Ehrmann's request to meet with the CS Historical Board in the near future. The Board agreed that such a meeting would be appropriate and directed the Executive Secretary to set a time and place therefor mutually convenient to all parties concerned.

13. Meeting adjourned at 1700 hours.

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[redacted]

Executive Secretary
CS Historical Board

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